GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:377
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2002
TRANSPORTATION OF FRUITS
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been sent to the Ministry of Railways for making available a large number of specialized wagons for transportation of fruits from different agricultural States to metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Railways have demanded any subsidy for introducing this specialized system of transportation of fruits;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.377 DUE FOR REPLY ON 16TH DECEMBER, 2002.

(a)&(b): In pursuance of the request received from the Members of Confederation of Indian Horticulture (CIH), which is an Apex Body constituted by the various product specific associations comprising of major fruits and flowers, the Ministry of Agriculture, through National Horticulture Board (NHB) took up the matter with the Chairman, Railway Board to facilitate the transportation of fruits through specialized wagons. Indian Railways have manufactured a proto-type refrigerated parcel van which can carry both frozen and cold storage goods. The proto-type has been tried successfully and such wagons would prove to be very beneficial in reducing transportation losses of fruits in railway wagons.

(c): No, Sir.

(d)&(e): Do not arise.